Barriers and facilitators of community-based implementation of evidence-based interventions, for children and young people's mental health promotion, prevention, and treatment

A Rapid Scoping Review

Rationale

- To provide an overview of existing evidence to inform priorities for the Emerging Minds Big Question Research Challenge

- Evidence-based interventions exist for use in community-based and school settings, but little is known about their implementation in practice

Emerging Minds

Number of children in A&E with serious mental health issues jumps 50 per cent since start of pandemic

Families reveal the heartbreaking consequences of delays in finding help since lockdown

By **Investigations team**
19 September 2021 • 9:34pm

Health

Children face 'agonising' waits for mental health care

By **Nick Triggle**
Health correspondent

🕐 3 days ago

[Coronavirus pandemic]

Parents warn of tsunami of school-anxiety cases

🕐 15 September

Mental health

Children's NHS mental health referrals double in pandemic

Young people 'suffering terribly' in Covid crisis, with nearly 200,000 referred in just three months

● Coronavirus – latest updates
● See all our coronavirus coverage

Andrew Gregory *Health editor*

Thu 23 Sep 2021 06.00 BST

'Mental health pandemic looming' for children in the UK, charity warns

The proportion of support workers reporting mental health problems with children has increased by 10%

THE BIG QUESTION RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Rationale

- To provide an overview of existing evidence to inform priorities for the Emerging Minds Big Question Research Challenge

- Evidence-based interventions exist for use in community-based and school settings, but little is known about their implementation in practice

Aims

- Identify barriers and facilitators of implementation within community-based services and schools

- Provide practical guidance, and suggestions for those 'implementers' within these settings

Methods

- A librarian from Bodleian Library assisted in refining our search strategy, and running the search

- We searched 8 electronic databases from 2011 to 30/07/2021: Ovid Embase; Ovid Medline, Ovid PsycINFO; Ovid Global Health: Scopus; Web of Science All Databases; EBSCO CINAHL; and EBSCO ERIC.

- We included primary research studies, from peer reviewed journals which included data collected within the UK

Emerging Minds

Identification

Records identified from Electronic Databases (n = 4899)

Screening

Records screened (n = 4899) → Records excluded (n = 4676)

Reports sought for retrieval (n = 223)

Reports assessed for eligibility (n = 223) → Reports excluded (n = 216)

Screened by second-coder

Included

Studies included (n = 5)
NB: All school-based

THE BIG QUESTION RESEARCH CHALLENGE

Emerging Findings: Barriers

Systemic

Competing national priorities and targets, knowledge and beliefs

Organisational

Lack of time and resources, relative priorities, organisational complexity, school culture and beliefs

Individual

Accessibility of intervention to parents, teacher support and supervision, student age

Emerging Findings: Facilitators

Systemic

High quality training, investment in program

Organisational

Strong networks of communication, intervention compliments existing tools and resources, accessible points of contact

Individual

Student responsibility, implementation advocates, effective leadership, teacher directed vs student-requested

Key Takeaway Messages

- Lack of evidence on barriers and facilitators overall, but especially from within community and voluntary support services

- Lack of pragmatic strategies and tools for implementation

- No cohesive framework established (owed to 'complexity' of these settings) for supporting implementation of evidence-based practice, despite its key role in improving prevention and treatment children and young people's mental ill-health

Thank you!

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